

# Karluk River

## Land Status & Public Use Information

Located on the southwest end of Kodiak Island approximately one hour by air from the city of Kodiak, the Karluk River area provides excellent opportunities for fishing, hunting, hiking, wildlife viewing, and other wilderness activities.

The Karluk River is 22 miles long. Though all but the lower 8 miles of the river are located within the boundary of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, Koniag, Inc. owns all of the land adjacent to the river, the northern portion of Karluk Lake, and most of the land surrounding Karluk Lagoon. Public use trail and site easements (**shown on the map below**) have been reserved at intervals along the river to provide reasonable access to the remaining public land and major waterways. In addition, during 2002 Koniag, Inc., Kodiak Refuge and the State of Alaska negotiated an agreement creating a conservation easement zone on Koniag land surrounding Karluk Lake and around the portion of Karluk River within the Refuge boundary. To facilitate public use of this zone, the Refuge implemented a cost-free permit system for use of land within ½ mile of Karluk Lake and Karluk River (**see map**). In the past, the other private land owner, Karluk IRA Traditional Council (Karluk Tribal Council), which owns the upland adjacent to the lower 3 miles of the Karluk River and most of the private property surrounding Karluk Lagoon, also implemented a permit program to allow public use of their land.

Following are answers to some frequently asked questions regarding access and use of Karluk Lake and River for public recreation.

### When do I need to get a Refuge permit to use Karluk River and Karluk Lakeshore?

•A permit is required at all times to use easement lands within ½ mile of Karluk Lake and Karluk River for recreational purposes.

### Are there any other permits I will need for the Karluk River downstream of the Refuge boundary?

•No additional permit is needed if you have obtained the appropriate Refuge permit and plan on floating and fishing the Karluk River between the Refuge boundary and Karluk Lagoon within a single day. As part of your Refuge permit, you also are permitted to camp for a single night at any one of 3 designated overnight campsites (**see map**) adjacent to the river on Koniag, Inc. land. However, additional permits will be needed if you wish to access and use Koniag, Inc. land for an extended time period or if, at any time, you wish to access and use Karluk Tribal Council land. For more information contact:

Koniag, Inc., 202 Center Avenue,  
Suite 201, Kodiak, Alaska 99615  
(907) 486-2530

Karluk IRA Traditional Council  
Box 22, Karluk, Alaska 99608  
(907) 241-2218

### Where can I obtain a permit to use easement land along Karluk River and Karluk Lake?

•Unguided visitors can apply for a free Refuge permit by visiting either Cy's Sporting Goods (907) 486-3900 or Seahawk Air (907) 486-8282 in Kodiak. Another option is to contact the Refuge at (907) 487-2600 or toll-free at (888) 408-3514.

•Guided visitors need to obtain a free Refuge permit from Koniag, Inc.'s authorized guides. For a listing of guides contact Koniag Inc. at the previously listed address and telephone.

### Are there limits on the number of permits available to unguided and guided visitors?

•Yes, but only between June 10 and July 15, called the limited entry period, which coincides with the peak of the king salmon run. During this period, total daily permits will be limited to 28 for unguided visitors and 42 for guided visitors.

•During the remainder of the year, referred to as the registration period, there are no daily or overall limits on the number of guided and unguided visitors.

### How long can I stay?

•A maximum stay of 7 days is allowed during the limited entry period, including 6 days within the easement zone and 1 day downstream of the Refuge boundary.

•There is no limit on length of stay during the registration period.

### What is the annual deadline to apply for a limited entry permit?

•Application period: November 1 – December 15

(Note: The Refuge must receive applications no later than December 15.)

•Drawing date: January 7

### What happens if there are additional permits available for the limited entry period after the lottery drawing?

•If you applied for, but were not awarded, a limited entry permit, you can re-apply for a permit if any remain after the lottery drawing. Check the "Open Dates" section of the permit Website (or phone the refuge) to assess availability of unallocated permits after the January lottery drawing.

### Can I apply for an easement zone permit more than one year in advance of my planned visit?

•No.

### Can I apply for more than one trip during the limited entry period?

•No.

### Can I apply for a group (party) permit and submit one application for the four members in my party, or do I have to submit a separate application for each person?

•During the limited entry period, a single application can be submitted for a group.

•During the registration period, each visitor must complete a separate permit application form.

### Are there limits on group size?

•During the limited entry period, group size is limited to a total of 6 persons.

•During the registration period, there is no limit on group size.

### Can I start my visit prior to June 10 and extend it into the limited entry period or, conversely, start my visit during the limited entry period and extend it past July 15?

•Yes, however, in both cases you will need to have a limited entry permit for the period of your visit between June 10 and July 15, and also a registration permit for any time spent outside of the limited entry period.

### Will visitors permitted during the limited entry period who encounter weather delays lose time from their allotted trip?

•No. Visitors prevented from accessing easement land to start their trip because of poor weather will be allowed a permit extension. For example, a party permitted for a 5-day trip between July 1-5 who, due to poor weather, was unable to access the Karluk until July 3, would be granted a 2-day extension to allow them to complete the originally planned 5 day trip.

### I am planning several trips to the Karluk River this year during the registration period. Do I need a new permit for each of these trips?

•Yes.

### I am planning on floating the Karluk River to Karluk Lagoon. Where can I camp along the river once I am downstream of the easement zone boundary?

•Once you obtain a Refuge permit you are allowed to camp for a single night at any one of the following 3 designated overnight campsites (**see map**):

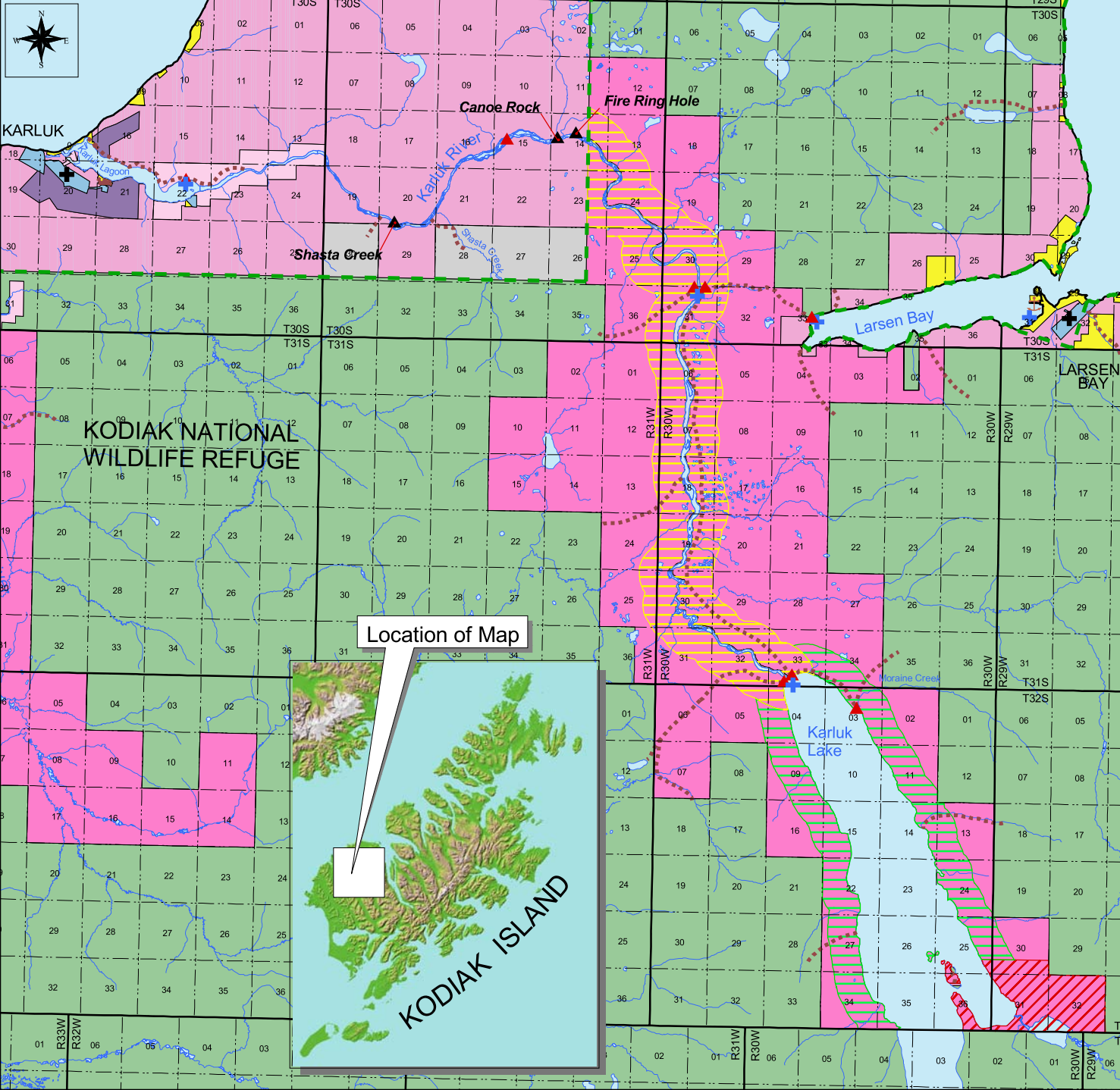
1. Fire Ring Hole
2. Canoe Rock
3. Shasta Creek

•Additionally, you may camp for a single night at a one-acre public easement located between the second and third designated campsites. You should contact Koniag, Inc. and the Karluk Tribal Council for information on the availability of public access and use permits for down river lands outside the designated campsites and one-acre public easement.

### Where can I camp in Karluk Lagoon as I end my trip?

•There is a one-acre public easement, located at the float plane pick-up site along the northeast shore of Karluk Lagoon that can also be used as a campsite for a single night. Fifteen acres of state-owned land located along the southeast shore of the lagoon (directly across from the public easement - **see map**) are also available for public use, including camping for up to 14 consecutive days.






# Koniag Easement Lands and Refuge Permit Zones

Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge


 Limited Entry Permit  
(June 10 - July 15)  
Registration Permit  
(July 16 - June 9)


 Registration Permit  
(all year)

 Closed Area

 Karluk Tribal Council

 Koniag, Inc.

 Koniag, Inc. Conservation  
Easement

 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service


 Bureau of Land Management

 State of Alaska

 Municipal

 Other Private

 Refuge Boundary

 17B Easement Trail

 Boat Launch

 Designated Campsite

 17b Campsite

 Landing Strip

 Floatplane

0 1 2 3 Miles

